

APPENDIX 18 - BUCS SPORT SPECIFIC AFFILIATIONS DOCUMENT 2026-27

Clubs, teams and individuals participating in certain competitions need to affiliate with their National Governing Body (NGB) or meet other requirements to be eligible to take part. Each sport is different. Find out your sport's requirements below.

Please read through this document carefully and use the links associated to each sport to access any further relevant information.

There are two sections to this document:

- 1) [BUCS Team Championships \(Leagues and Knockouts\)](#)
- 2) [BUCS Individual and Team Championships \(Events\)](#)

Most of the items in each section are compulsory requirements that **MUST** be met, and as a result, most carry sanctions if not completed by the published deadlines. However, there are also some others which are not compulsory requirements but that BUCS believes are valuable for members to undertake. Please read the details associated with each one for further information. Deadlines will **ONLY** be listed here, not on the sport specific pages or in the rules and regulations.

If there are any questions not answered by the information provided, then please feel free to contact BUCS directly via [email](#).

Please note that the information within this document is subject to change. Should any updates be required then the document will be republished, and Institution Administrators will be notified via e-mail.

Updates

1) BUCS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS (LEAGUES AND KNOCKOUTS)

Sport	Requirement(s)	How	Summary of Benefits	Deadline(s)	Sanction(s)
American Football	BAFA Club Affiliation All institutions/Playing Entities must affiliate with BAFA via BUCS.	Institutions will affiliate with BAFA via BUCS. Following the first two originally scheduled fixtures for each team, BUCS will use the team squad information on BUCS Play to calculate each institution/Playing Entity's annual BAFA affiliation fee. The affiliation fee is £26.75 per player. Institutions will be invoiced by BUCS and given a 28-day payment period. BUCS will repeat this process for teams that do not qualify for the knockout competitions once the league deadline has passed. BUCS will repeat this process for teams that qualify for the knockout competitions, by the end of March, after the knockout competitions have concluded. Any extra players fielded (including as an unused substitute) during the season, not previously accounted for, will then be accounted for.	Dedicated BAFA funded post(s) within BUCS – BUCS American Football Programme Manager and BUCS American Football Programme Assistant. Access to BUCS American Football Conferences. Tailor-made League Schedule. Club coaches get access to NFL Coaching Clinics. Players get access to NFL organised Player Clinics.	All players are to be added to a team's squad on BUCS Play prior to being fielded (including as an unused substitute) in a BUCS fixture.	A fine of £250 fine will be levied if after their first two originally scheduled fixtures, a team does not have at least 22 players in their squad on BUCS Play. Following the first two originally scheduled fixtures for a team, if they do not have at least 22 players in their squad on BUCS Play, walkovers will be applied until at least 22 players are added to their squad on BUCS Play. Once the league deadline has passed for teams that do not qualify for the knockout competitions, and after the knockout competitions are concluded for teams that qualify for the knockout competitions, a fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any players who were not in the BUCS Play Squad at the time of the fixture.

American Football	BAFA Coaches/Sideline Personnel Membership All coaches/sideline personnel must purchase membership with BAFA.	Coaching staff will continue to purchase membership through BAFA's registration system .	Insurance provided by BAFA.	Prior to their first BUCS fixture. At least one coach per team should be affiliated prior to their team's first practice.	Individuals are not permitted to participate if they are not registered with BAFA. A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have used unregistered individuals.
Badminton	Premier Tier Player Ranking List All institutions/Playing Entities with teams in Premier Tier leagues must submit the names of four players who are unable to play below the first team at any stage of the season as per BAD 7 .	The Excel template can be downloaded here and should be e-mailed to discipline@bucs.org.uk .		23:59 on Monday 5 October 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.
Basketball	NGB Club Affiliation All institutions/Playing Entities must affiliate with their respective National Governing Body (NGB).	English Institutions/Playing Entities Basketball England requires all clubs to affiliate directly with them via PlayHQ. Information regarding how to affiliate your club can be found here . If you have any queries regarding the process, please contact Basketball England . Scottish Institutions/Playing Entities Basketball Scotland requires all clubs to affiliate directly with them. Information	A Summary of the benefits of Basketball England Club Membership can be found here . A summary of the benefits of Basketball Wales Club Membership can be found here .	23:59 on Monday 21 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

		regarding how to affiliate your club can be found here. Welsh Institutions/Playing Entities Basketball Wales requires all clubs to affiliate directly with them. Information regarding how to affiliate your club can be found here. If you have any queries regarding the process, please contact Basketball Wales.			
Basketball	NGB Player Licence All players must hold a valid licence issued via the relevant NGB prior to playing in any BUCS Basketball fixtures. Before each match, teams must present to the Match Officials the licences of all players who are to participate in the match.	English Institutions/Playing Entities Once club affiliation has been completed and the fee paid, individuals will receive a registration link to join Basketball England directly from the club admin for a fee of £35. Information for Club Admins on how to generate and share links can be found here. Institutions are required to add the players to their relevant team within the PlayHQ admin portal. If you have any queries regarding the process, please contact Basketball England. Scottish Institutions/Playing Entities	A Summary of the benefits of Basketball England Membership can be found here.	Prior to being fielded (including as an unused substitute) in a BUCS fixture.	For Premier Tier/National Championship matches, in the event of a valid licence not being produced for a player, that person shall not be permitted to participate in the match in question. For all other matches, players unable to present a valid licence at a fixture should be noted on the scoresheet but are able to participate, however, a fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any players without a valid licence.

		Once the club affiliation has been completed and the fee paid, players can then register and licence themselves through the Basketball Scotland membership portal. Welsh Institutions/Playing Entities Once the club affiliation has been completed and the fee paid, players can then register and take out a Performance Membership themselves through the Basketball Wales membership portal. If you have any queries regarding the process, please contact Basketball Wales.			
Basketball	NGB Coach Licence All coaches on the sideline during BUCS fixtures must hold a valid licence issued via the relevant NGB. Before each match, teams must present to the Match Officials the licences of all coaches who are to participate in the match.	English Institutions/Playing Entities Once club affiliation has been completed and the fee paid, individuals will receive a registration link to join Basketball England directly from the club admin for a fee of £35. Information for Club Admins on how to generate and share links can be found here. Institutions are required to add the coaches to their relevant team within the PlayHQ admin portal.	A Summary of the benefits of Basketball England Membership can be found here.	Prior to their first BUCS fixture.	For Premier Tier/National Championship matches, in the event of a valid licence not being produced for a coach, that person shall not be permitted to participate in the match in question. For all other matches, coaches unable to present a valid licence at a fixture should be noted on the scoresheet but are able to participate, however, a fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have had any coaches on the sideline without a valid licence.

		If you have any queries regarding the process, please contact Basketball England. Scottish Institutions/Playing Entities Once the club affiliation has been completed and the fee paid, coaches can then register and licence themselves through the Basketball Scotland membership portal. Welsh Institutions/Playing Entities Once the club affiliation has been completed and the fee paid, coaches can then register and licence themselves through the Basketball Wales membership portal. If you have any queries regarding the process, please contact Basketball Wales.			
Dodgeball	British Dodgeball Club Membership All institutions/Playing Entities must be a club member of British Dodgeball.	British Dodgeball (BD) requires all institutions/Playing Entities to hold a University Club Membership. The cost for University Club Membership is £100. Clubs are encouraged to be named as per the following examples: Loughborough	Insurance provided by British Dodgeball. To find out more, visit the British Dodgeball insurance centre. Ability to compete in British Dodgeball University and Community events.	23:59 on Monday 28 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

		University (BUCS) / University of Bristol (BUCS). You can purchase a University Club Membership via your existing GameDay administrator by logging into GameDay here. If your University Club did not participate in 2025, you may register here instead.	Access to the British Dodgeball Higher Education Dodgeball Activator (HEDA) scheme for two members of each club. Find out more about the HEDA scheme here.		
Dodgeball	British Dodgeball Player Registration All players must be registered with British Dodgeball on GameDay.	British Dodgeball requires all players to complete Player Registration with them prior to competition by creating an account on GameDay and assigning themselves to their institution/Playing Entity's BUCS club. Students competing only in BUCS Dodgeball can register for free here. Those students competing in British Dodgeball University or Community Leagues, Opens and Events must register for Adult Player Membership on GameDay here. Returning players who registered in 2025 can renew their British Dodgeball membership by logging into their Gameday account here.	Insurance provided by British Dodgeball. To find out more, visit the British Dodgeball insurance centre. Ability to compete in British Dodgeball University and Community Leagues, Opens and Events upon successfully purchasing Adult Player Membership.	Prior to being fielded (including as an unused substitute) in a BUCS fixture.	A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any unregistered players.
Fencing	British Fencing Membership All competitors must be a member of British	Information on British Fencing Membership can be found here and memberships can be purchased here.	A summary of the benefits of British Fencing membership can be found here.	Prior to being fielded (including as an unused substitute) in a BUCS fixture.	A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any

	Fencing. For the Team Championships all competitors require a minimum of 'Recreational' membership.				fencers without a valid membership.
Football and Futsal	BUCS Football Accreditation Accreditation is not a requirement to compete in BUCS Football and/or Futsal competitions. However, BUCS recommends that each institution is accredited as the model is designed to support the growth of Football and Futsal across Higher Education.	Information on accreditation, including an accreditation guidance document, and a link to sign up, can be found here .	Member Services are run throughout the academic year which institutions have access to once accredited, these include: FA Women's Leadership Programme Emerging Club Leaders Club Committee Leader Training Events Funded Development Projects Student Coaching Development Hubs Student Referee Development Hubs	23:59 on Wednesday 30 September 2026.	Recommendation – No sanction for non-completion.
Football	NGB Club/Team Affiliation All institutions/Playing Entities must affiliate with their respective Home Nation Football Association.	English Institutions/Playing Entities The FA requires clubs to affiliate their teams directly with their County FA via the FA's Club Portal system. Prior to affiliating, teams must be assigned to the correct "League" in the FA's		23:59 on Monday 21 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

		Club Portal system – these are: • BUCS Men’s Football • BUCS Women’s Football Affiliation will not be considered complete if a team is not affiliated into the correct “League” and/or if the team’s affiliation status is “Invoiced”, “Pending CFA” or “Unaffiliated”. Support guides on how to edit team details, assign teams to leagues, and affiliate can be accessed here and here. Teams should be named as per the following examples: Loughborough University Women’s 1st Team (BUCS) / University of Bristol Men’s 1st Team (BUCS) As part of the affiliation process, teams can also be added to the relevant BUCS ‘Division’ and ‘Cup’ within the “League” on the Club Portal system, but this is not part of the formal requirement. If you are unsure about the affiliation process, please contact your County FA directly. Welsh Institutions/Playing Entities			
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		Clubs are required to affiliate their teams directly with their Area Association and/or the FAW (where applicable) and then submit their affiliation number(s) to BUCS here. Scottish Institutions/Playing Entities For Men's Football Teams in Scotland, SSS affiliates all Scottish teams, and invoices this fee back to each club within the academic year. Clubs are required to affiliate their Women's teams directly to Scottish Women's Football (SWF) and then submit their affiliation details to info@scottishstudentsport.com. Institutions should receive affiliation information directly from SAFA and SWF. If you have any queries regarding the process, please contact Chris Purdie at Scottish Student Sport.			
Futsal	NGB Club/Team Affiliation All institutions/Playing Entities must affiliate with their respective Home Nation Football Association.	English Institutions/Playing Entities The FA requires clubs to affiliate their teams directly with their County FA via the FA's Club Portal system.		23:59 on Monday 21 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

		Prior to affiliating, teams must be assigned to the correct “League” in the FA’s Club Portal system – these are: • BUCS Men’s Futsal • BUCS Women’s Futsal Affiliation will not be considered complete if a team is not affiliated into the correct “League” and/or if the team’s affiliation status is “Invoiced”, “Pending CFA” or “Unaffiliated”. Support guides on how to edit team details, assign teams to leagues, and affiliate can be accessed here and here. Teams should be named as per the following examples: Loughborough University Women’s 1st Team (BUCS) / University of Bristol Men’s 1st Team (BUCS) As part of the affiliation process, teams can also be added to the relevant BUCS ‘Division’ and ‘Cup’ within the “League” on the Club Portal system, but this is not part of the formal requirement. If you are unsure about the affiliation process, please contact your County FA directly.			
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		Welsh Institutions/Playing Entities Clubs are required to affiliate their teams directly with their Area Association and/or the FAW (where applicable) and then submit their affiliation number(s) to BUCS here. Scottish Institutions/Playing Entities Clubs are required to affiliate their Men's teams directly to the Scottish Amateur Football Association (SAFA) and then submit their affiliation details to info@scottishstudentsport.com. Clubs are required to affiliate their Women's teams directly to Scottish Women's Football (SWF) and then submit their affiliation details to info@scottishstudentsport.com. Institutions should receive affiliation information directly from SAFA and SWF. If you have any queries regarding the process, please contact Chris Purdie at Scottish Student Sport.			
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Lacrosse	England Lacrosse Club Affiliation (English and Welsh Institutions/Playing Entities only) All institutions/Playing Entities must be affiliated with England Lacrosse.	To affiliate visit the England Lacrosse Website. Clubs are encouraged to be named as per the following examples: Loughborough University (BUCS) / University of Bristol (BUCS). For any questions regarding affiliation, please contact Kerrie Worthington at England Lacrosse.	A summary of the benefits of England Lacrosse affiliation can be found here.	23:59 on Monday 21 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.
Lacrosse	Submission of details of those responsible for arranging match officials All institutions/Playing Entities are required to submit the name(s) and contact details of those responsible for arranging match officials for their home fixtures.	To be submitted online here.		23:59 on Monday 28 September 2026.	£100 fine if requirement not met by the deadline.
Rugby League	RFL Club Affiliation (including teams) All institutions/Playing Entities must be an associated member of, and all teams must be affiliated with, the RFL.	The annual affiliation fee scheme is based on a tiered pricing structure: 1 Team = £200 2 Teams = £270 (£200 + £70 for a second team)	Once all relevant paperwork and payment of fees is received, clubs will be covered by the RFL Public Liability and Personal Accident policy for a period of 12 months.	23:59 on Monday 21 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirements not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirements are met.

		3 Teams = £290 (£200 + £70 for a second team + £20 for a third team) If a team did not compete in the BUCS Rugby League programme during the 2025-26 season, the element of the affiliation fee for that team will not be charged. To complete the affiliation process, institutions/Playing Entities are required to complete this form and have paid invoices issued directly by the RFL and sent via email to each institution/Playing Entity. For any questions regarding affiliation, please contact Emily Davies at the RFL.	Further details of what the policy covers can be found online here.		
Rugby League	RFL Player Registration All players must be registered with the RFL.	Player registrations can be completed here.	As per RFL Club Affiliation.	Prior to being fielded (including as an unused substitute) in a BUCS fixture.	A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any unregistered players.
Rugby Union	RFU and SRFU Club Affiliation (English Institutions/Playing Entities only) All teams must belong to a club which holds membership of the	To affiliate, please visit the SRFU affiliation page.	A summary of the benefits of RFU and SRFU affiliation can be found in the FAQs here.	23:59 on Monday 21 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

	RFU and SRFU (Students' Rugby Football Union).				
Rugby Union	RFU Player Registration (English Institutions/Playing Entities only) On the RFU Game Management system, all players must have an account, confirm their email address, attach this account to their university organisation, and submit their Player Registration details.	To register, please visit the GMS University Process webpage.	Eligibility to enter BUCS/NAMS Competitions. Eligibility to access the SRFU rugby grants scheme. Entry to England ticket ballots (for RFU voting members). Invitations to member events including webinars, the RFU/BUCS/SRFU University rugby Development Forum, the University rugby Awards and SRFU AGM. Receive the University Rugby Update, and RFU comms throughout the season.	Prior to being fielded (including as an unused substitute) in a BUCS fixture.	A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any unregistered players.
Squash	Player Ranking List Prior to the start of the season, each institution/Playing Entity must submit a ranked list of all the players they expect to use across their teams as per SQUZ. There shall be separate ranking lists for the Men's and Women's Championships.	The Excel template can be downloaded here and should be e-mailed to discipline@bucs.org.uk. Following the initial ranking deadline passing, ranking lists will be locked and cannot be changed except in the following circumstances: 1. There shall be two re-ranking windows, during which Playing Entities can change the ranked order of		Initial Deadline: 23:59 on Monday 12 October 2026. First Re-ranking Window: 00:00 on Thursday 29 October – 23:59 on Monday 2 November 2026. Second Re-ranking Window:	£250 fine if requirement not met by the initial deadline. After the initial deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

		existing players on their ranking list and/or remove players from their ranking list. Changes to ranking lists made during a re-ranking window will only come into effect at the end of the window. 2. Playing Entities may request to add players in at any positions on their ranking list at any time during the season by emailing discipline@bucs.org.uk. Requests must be submitted to, and approved by, the BUCS Executive in advance of the players competing in any fixtures so they should be made as far in advance of affected fixtures as possible. 3. If an individual on a ranking list becomes no longer eligible to represent a Playing Entity under REG 4 at any time during the season, the Playing Entity must inform the BUCS Executive of this by emailing discipline@bucs.org.uk without unreasonable delay and they will be removed from the ranking list.		00:00 on Monday 28 December 2026 – 23:59 on Monday 11 January 2027.	
Squash	SquashLevels For the 2026-27 season, fully completed BUCS results will automatically pull through to the SquashLevels system to calculate your	SquashLevels	Feeds into rankings for individual championships. Generates Squash Level for all participants, placing them on a world ranking scale.	Prior to first BUCS fixture.	Recommendation – No sanction for non-completion.

	Squash Level. Register an account on the SquashLevels site to take ownership of your rating.				
Table Tennis	Player Ranking List Prior to the start of the season, each institution/Playing Entity must submit a ranked list of all the players they expect to use across their teams as per TAB 7. There shall be separate ranking lists for the Men's and Women's Championships.	The Excel template can be downloaded here and should be e-mailed to discipline@bucs.org.uk. Following the initial ranking deadline passing, ranking lists will be locked and cannot be changed except in the following circumstances: 1. There shall be two re-ranking windows, during which Playing Entities can change the ranked order of existing players on their ranking list and/or remove players from their ranking list. Changes to ranking lists made during a re-ranking window will only come into effect at the end of the window. 2. Playing Entities may request to add players in at any positions on their ranking list at any time during the season by emailing discipline@bucs.org.uk. Requests must be submitted to, and approved by, the BUCS Executive in advance of the players competing in any fixtures so they should be made as far in advance of affected fixtures as possible.		Initial Deadline: 23:59 on Monday 12 October 2026. First Re-ranking Window: 00:00 on Thursday 29 October – 23:59 on Monday 2 November 2026. Second Re-ranking Window: 00:00 on Monday 28 December 2026 – 23:59 on Monday 11 January 2027.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the initial deadline. After the initial deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

		3. If an individual on a ranking list becomes no longer eligible to represent a Playing Entity under REG 4 at any time during the season, the Playing Entity must inform the BUCS Executive of this by emailing discipline@bucs.org.uk without unreasonable delay and they will be removed from the ranking list.			
Tennis (including Fast4)	LTA Venue Registration All institutions/Playing Entities must be 'Registered Venues' with the LTA.	Venue Registration is free to complete. Institutions/playing entities that are existing LTA 'Registered Venues' will need to complete a simple renewal process during the registration window. The reminder email for this will come from the LTA to the 'Club Contact' registered with them. If your institution/Playing Entity uses external courts (not owned by your institution/Playing Entity) to compete on, these will need to be added onto your venue registration. For any new or institutions/Playing Entities not currently registered venues, BUCS/the LTA will be in touch about completing this process.	A summary of the benefits of LTA Venue Registration can be found here.	23:59 on Monday 30 November 2026 (the registration window will open in early October).	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

Tennis (including Fast4)	LTA Advantage Membership and World Tennis Number (WTN) LTA Advantage Membership and a World Tennis Number (WTN) are required by all competitors. A minimum of Advantage Play membership is required alongside the creation of a World Tennis Number (WTN).	More information and a link to take out membership can be found here, with specific support for HE institutions here. Players should also attach their university to their LTA account, details as to how to do this can be viewed here. More information about how to activate the World Tennis Number (WTN) can be viewed here. BUCS will send out a spreadsheet for institutions to complete by Wednesday 30 September to submit any international students' iPINs and previous WTNs to link these with their LTA profiles. After this date, international students with an existing WTN should contact the LTA to ensure their previous WTN is linked with their LTA Advantage Membership account.	Enables a player's individual match results to be added to the LTA Online League Planner and contribute to their WTN (World Tennis Number). Other benefits of LTA Advantage membership can be found here.	Prior to being named on a ranking list.	A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any unregistered players.
Tennis (including Fast4)	Player Ranking List Prior to the start of the season, each institution/Playing Entity must submit a ranked list of all the players they expect to use across their teams as per TEN 9. There shall be separate	The Excel template can be downloaded here and should be e-mailed to discipline@bucs.org.uk. Please note: In connection with the requirement above, LTA Advantage Membership Numbers should be included on ranking list submissions or		Initial Deadline (All Scottish institutions): 23:59 on Monday 28 September 2026. Initial Deadline (All English and Welsh institutions): 23:59 on Monday 5 October 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the initial deadline. After the initial deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

	ranking lists for the Men's and Women's Championships.	when requesting a new player to be added. Following the initial ranking deadline passing, ranking lists will be locked and cannot be changed except in the following circumstances: 1. There shall be two re-ranking windows, during which Playing Entities can change the ranked order of existing players on their ranking list and/or remove players from their ranking list. Changes to ranking lists made during a re-ranking window will only come into effect at the end of the window. 2. Playing Entities may request to add players in at any positions on their ranking list at any time during the season by emailing discipline@bucs.org.uk. Requests must be submitted to, and approved by, the BUCS Executive in advance of the players competing in any fixtures so they should be made as far in advance of affected fixtures as possible. 3. If an individual on a ranking list becomes no longer eligible to represent a Playing Entity under REG 4 at any time during the season, the Playing Entity must inform the BUCS Executive of this by emailing discipline@bucs.org.uk		First Re-ranking Window: 00:00 on Thursday 29 October – 23:59 on Monday 2 November 2026. Second Re-ranking Window: 00:00 on Monday 28 December 2026 – 23:59 on Monday 11 January 2027.	
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		without unreasonable delay and they will be removed from the ranking list.			
Ultimate (Outdoor)	UK Ultimate (UKU) Membership All players competing in the Outdoor leagues and the National Shield Qualifier Competition (rounds prior to the National Finals Weekend) require Basic Membership. All players competing at the Outdoor National Finals events (National Championship, National Trophy or National Shield Finals) require Full Membership.	Information on UKU Membership can be found here and memberships can be purchased here. Please Note: UKU Club Affiliation is not mandatory to compete in the BUCS Ultimate programme. However, to facilitate the individual membership process, an institution/Playing Entity's club must be registered with UKU.	Basic Membership: Access to some member events for Free, such as Coaches Forums. Full Membership: Eligibility to compete in any UK Ultimate event. Free access to rewards scheme. Free access to online Coach Education materials. Access to member events for free, such as Coaches Forums.	Prior to being fielded (including as an unused substitute) in a BUCS fixture.	A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any players without a valid membership.
Volleyball	NGB Club Affiliation All institutions/Playing Entities must affiliate with their respective National Governing Body (NGB).	English and Welsh Institutions/Playing Entities BUCS works closely with Volleyball England to provide the best value club affiliation and scheme possible. Information on Volleyball England Club Affiliation can be found here. If you are a new club affiliating with Volleyball England, click here for information on the process. If you are an existing club	A summary of benefits from your affiliation to Volleyball England can be found here.	23:59 on Monday 21 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.

		renewing your affiliation, click here for information on the process. To affiliate you will need to login to the Club Admin Profile (access can be provided by the current secretary or requesting support from Volleyball England). It is suggested that a generic email address (for example info@uni.ac.uk) is used for accounts. Your online account will help you keep track of your annual affiliation and see when renewals are due. Clubs are encouraged to be named as per the following examples: Loughborough University (BUCS) / University of Bristol (BUCS). Clubs competing in BUCS Volleyball (including Beach Volleyball) only should select BUCS Club Affiliation. Clubs competing in Volleyball England and/or additional affiliated competitions to BUCS (for example, National, Regional or Local leagues) should select Standard Club Affiliation. The Affiliation Fees for 2026-27 are:			
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		BUCS only club – £77.50* Standard Club (Also playing outside of BUCS) – £119* * Service Provider Fee: 3.2%+50p on all transactions throughout the season. If you are experiencing trouble with affiliating, please email Volleyball England, or call them on 01509 974700. Scottish Institutions/Playing Entities Affiliation directly through the Scottish Volleyball Association.			
Wheelchair Basketball	BWB Club Affiliation All institutions/Playing Entities must affiliate their club with British Wheelchair Basketball (BWB).	To affiliate, please visit the BWB website.	A summary of the benefits of BWB Club Affiliation can be found here.	23:59 on Monday 21 September 2026.	£250 fine if requirement not met by the deadline. After the deadline has passed, walkovers will be applied until the requirement is met.
Wheelchair Basketball	BWB Player Membership and Licence All players must hold a valid British Wheelchair Basketball (BWB) Full Membership and Licence prior to playing in any BUCS Wheelchair Basketball fixtures.	To register, please visit the BWB website.	A summary of the benefits of BWB Membership can be found here.	Prior to being fielded (including as an unused substitute) in a BUCS fixture.	A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have fielded (including as an unused substitute) any players without a valid membership and licence.
Wheelchair Basketball	BWB Coach/Team Staff Membership and Licence	To register, please visit the BWB website.	A summary of the benefits of BWB Membership can be found here.	Prior to their first BUCS fixture.	A fine of £50 per fixture will be levied if a team is found to have had any

	All coaches/team staff on the sideline during BUCS fixtures must hold a valid British Wheelchair Basketball (BWB) Full Membership and Licence.				coaches/team staff on the sideline without a valid licence.
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2) BUCS INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS (EVENTS)					
Sport	Requirement(s)	How/Useful Links	Summary of Benefits	Deadline(s)	Compulsory? /Sanction(s)

Archery	Archery GB Membership All competitors must have a valid Archery GB membership. For further details please refer to the 'Entry Information' document which will be published on the relevant BUCS Archery event website page when entries open on BUCS Play.	Archery GB website Archery GB University Club Handy Guide	Archery GB membership enables an individual to compete in the BUCS Archery Championships and other licensed archery competitions in Great Britain.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid Archery GB membership will not be permitted to compete.
Athletics	To compete in any open competition, promote open competitions, or benefit from UKA Public Liability Insurance, institutions must have a Club Affiliation with their Home Nation Association. For BUCS' sport specific affiliation purposes, open competitions are defined as those available for athletes outside BUCS member institutions to enter. If clubs are only competing within closed University competitions, they do not need to have affiliated with their	England Athletics Scottish Athletics Welsh Athletics	A summary of the benefits offered by each home nation can be found here: England Athletics Scottish Athletics Welsh Athletics	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Combined Events Championships – Yes. An open competition, therefore, institutions competing must have an affiliated club* with their Home Nation Association, and athletes competing must be registered with this club as either first or second claim. *If the club meets the Home Nation Association club criteria. If it does not meet the criteria, an institution does not need to affiliate the club. Sanctions: - Disqualification - Ineligibility to compete at this and future licensed events

	Home Nation Association. If students are representing their institution's club at open competitions, they will need to have completed the Athlete Registration process and have a valid URN to compete. If students are representing their institution's club at closed University competitions ONLY, they do not need to have completed the Athlete Registration process and have a valid URN.				10,000m Championships, Cross Country Championships, Indoor Championships, and Outdoor Championships – No. A closed University competition, therefore clubs do not need to be affiliated with their Home Nation Association, and athletes do not need to be registered with the club.
Badminton	Badminton England Membership Number, Badminton Scotland Membership ID, Badminton Wales Membership ID, or Badminton Ireland Membership ID To support seeding and selection process of BUCS Badminton Individual Championships. Grading should also be provided. Matches will also go towards players' BE Record.	Badminton England Badminton Scotland Badminton Wales Badminton Ireland	A summary of the benefits offered by Badminton England can be found here.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	No

Boxing	All competitors must have be registered with and have a valid licence with Boxing Scotland, England Boxing, Welsh Boxing or the Ulster Boxing Council (a provincial unit of the Irish Athletic Boxing Association), as well as a Boxer Competition Record book with the same body which details their competitive experience, to include any previous competitive experience from other combat sports, and a current medical card.	England Boxing Boxing Scotland Welsh Boxing Ulster Boxing Council / Irish Athletic Boxing Association		Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.* *If a Boxer's medical card is due to expire between the entry opening date and the Championships, they must ensure that by the time of the Championships they have a medical card that will be current.	Yes – Individuals without a valid licence, and unable to produce a valid Boxer Competition Record Book and a current medical card at weigh-in, will not be permitted to compete and disqualified from the competition.
Clay Pigeon Shooting	Competitors do not need to be a member of the Clay Pigeon Shooting Association. However, any license holders should provide this information on BUCS Play entry and present their valid license at registration. Each squad requires a minimum of 1 gun license holder	Clay Pigeon Shooting Association	Member benefits can be found here.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	No
Cycling (Enduro Championships)	Competitors do not need to be a member of British Cycling; however, those who hold a Full Racing	British Cycling Race Licences	Member benefits can be found here.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	No

	Licence must supply these details as part of the BUCS Play entry form to be eligible for earning licence ranking points. These licences must also be presented when registering at the event.				
Cycling (Track Cycling Championships)	British Cycling Race Licence All competitors must hold a valid British Cycling Race Licence.	British Cycling Race Licences	Member benefits can be found here .	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play OR purchased on the day at the event.	Yes – Individuals without a valid British Cycling Race Licence will not be permitted to compete.
Equestrian	Submission of Pool Match Dates and Venues All institutions/Playing Entities must confirm all home match dates and venues to BUCS as per EQU 4.2.3 .	To be submitted online here .		23:59 on Sunday 11 October 2026.	Yes – £100 fine if not submitted prior to the deadline.
Equestrian	Rider Ranking List Prior to the start of the season, each institution/Playing Entity must submit a ranked list of all the riders they expect to use across their teams as per EQU 3.5 .	The Excel template can be downloaded here and should be e-mailed to events@bucs.org.uk . Following the initial ranking deadline passing, ranking lists will be locked and cannot be changed except in the following circumstances: 1. There shall be one re-ranking window, during which Playing Entities can change the ranked order of existing riders on their ranking list and/or remove		Initial Deadline: 23:59 on Sunday 25 October 2026. Re-ranking Window: 00:00 on Thursday 12 November – 23:59 on Friday 20 November 2026.	Yes – £100 fine if not submitted prior to the initial deadline.

		riders from their ranking list. Changes to ranking lists made during a re-ranking window will only come into effect at the end of the window. 2. Institutions/Playing Entities may request to add riders in at any position on their ranking list at any time during the season by emailing events@bucs.org.uk. Requests must be submitted to, and approved by, the BUCS Executive in advance of the riders competing in any competitions so they should be made as far in advance of affected competitions as possible.			
Equestrian	Submission of Pool Match Scoresheet After each match the home team's Athletic Union is responsible for completing and submitting via e-mail to events@bucs.org.uk and the Athletic Unions of the other teams who took part in the match the full Excel scoresheet by the end of the relevant hosting window as per EQU 4.8.7.	The Excel scoresheet template can be downloaded here and should be e-mailed to events@bucs.org.uk and all opposition Athletic Unions. Please save all Excel scoresheets in the following format prior to sending: "Team - Level - Region - Date". For example, Oxford 1s - Region D - 25-11-2026.		First Hosting Window: Wednesday 28 October 2026 – Friday 20 November 2026. Second Hosting Window: Saturday 21 November 2026 – Friday 29 January 2027. Third Hosting Window: Saturday 30 January 2027 – Friday 26 February 2027. Fourth Hosting Window: Saturday 27 February	Yes – £100 fine if not submitted prior to the relevant deadline.

	NB: If hosting on the last day of a window there will be an additional 24-hour allowance to submit the scoresheet.			2027 – Thursday 25 March 2027.	
Fencing (Individual Championships)	British Fencing Membership All competitors must be a member of British Fencing. For the Individual Championships all competitors require a 'Compete' membership.	Information on British Fencing Membership can be found here and memberships can be purchased here .	A summary of the benefits of British Fencing membership can be found here .	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid British Fencing 'Compete' membership will not be permitted to compete.
Fencing (Regional Series)	British Fencing Membership All competitors must be a member of British Fencing. For the Regional Series all competitors require a minimum of 'Recreational' membership.	Information on British Fencing Membership can be found here and memberships can be purchased here .	A summary of the benefits of British Fencing membership can be found here .	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid British Fencing membership will not be permitted to compete.
Judo	Licence All competitors must hold, and present at registration and weigh-in, a valid licence issued by one of the following organisations: British Judo (BJA); Judo Scotland (JS); Northern Ireland Judo (NJIF); Welsh Judo	BJA website	Member benefits can be found here .	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid licence will not be permitted to compete and will not receive a refund of their entry fee.

	(WJA); Amateur Judo Association (AJA); British Judo Council (BJC); For international competitors, their home national governing body (as sanctioned by the International Judo Federation), along with a letter of permission.				
Jiu Jitsu	The Jiu Jitsu Foundation Licence All competitors must hold a valid The Jiu Jitsu Foundation (TJJF) licence.	TJJF website	PUBLIC LIABILITY AND PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE Comprehensive public liability and personal accident insurance for all jiu jitsu activity. GRADING Internationally recognised Jiu Jitsu Grading Scheme. TRAINING Regional (within 14 regions), National and International training opportunities. COMPETITION Competition opportunities within the Jiu Jitsu Foundation and the British Jiu Jitsu Association GB. PROGRESSION IN THE SPORT Training schemes for Club Assistants,	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play	Yes – Individuals without a valid TJJF licence will not be permitted to compete.

			Assistant Instructors, Instructors, Seniors Instructors and Referees including discount first aid training. E-NEWSLETTERS Regular e-newsletters and updates with the latest jiu jitsu news.		
Karate	Licence Competitors must hold a valid, up-to-date, recognisable karate licence of a Karate Association, duly completed with full and appropriate grading history. For competitors that gained grades from another association, then that licence must also be presented for scrutiny. Licences can be digital or physical, providing that they have your full name, which matches that shown on a form of ID. Competitors must enter the correct category for any grade they have achieved, or risk disqualification.	Individuals will acquire and update their licence through their club/association.	Holding the appropriate licence enables an individual to compete in the BUCS Karate Championships.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid licence will not be permitted to compete and will not receive a refund on their entry fee.

Korfball	British Student Korfball Association Club Affiliation (including teams) All institutions/Playing Entities must affiliate with the British Student Korfball Association (BSKA).	Please contact the British Student Korfball Association for affiliation details.	Used to improve the standard of competition by helping established university clubs grow and to help new clubs start by increasing the funding for more teams to compete in BUCS and their local leagues, training for referees and coaches, funding for new equipment and coaches.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Teams belonging to institutions/Playing Entities who are not affiliated to the BSKA will not be permitted to compete.
Pentathlon (Modern Pentathlon Championships)	Pentathlon GB Membership All competitors must have a valid Pentathlon GB membership. For further details please refer to the 'Entry Information' document which will be published on the relevant BUCS Pentathlon event website page when entries open on BUCS Play.	Pentathlon GB membership can be purchased here .	Pentathlon GB membership enables an individual to compete in the BUCS Modern Pentathlon Championships and other licensed Pentathlon competitions in Great Britain.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid membership will not be permitted to compete, note this does not apply to biathlon.
Powerlifting & Weightlifting (Powerlifting Championships)	British Powerlifting Membership All participants must hold a valid British Powerlifting membership that is in date.	Memberships should be purchased here .		Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid British Powerlifting membership will not be permitted to compete.
Powerlifting & Weightlifting	British Weightlifting Membership	Memberships should be purchased here .		Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid BWL membership will

(Weightlifting & Para Powerlifting Championships)	All participants must hold a valid British Weightlifting (BWL) membership that is in date.				not be permitted to compete.
Rifle (Full Bore Championships)	All competitors must have a valid NRA membership to shoot on National Shooting Centre Ranges OR pay the non-member fee.	NRA » Memberships - NRA	To use firearms and ammunition within the provisions of the Firearms Acts. To be covered under the Members' Insurance Policy including Public Liability. To shoot in NRA competitions. Subject to supervision approved by the NRA, to hire NSC targets on Bisley Ranges.	Prior to competing.	Yes – Individuals without a membership will not be permitted to compete.
Rifle (Short/Long Range Championships)	National Small-bore Rifle Association (NSRA) Club Membership	Login - JustGo	Unrivalled Insurance from NSRA partner MarshSport. Options to purchase additional Legal cover and Building cover. Access to NSRA Bisley (Lord Roberts Centre) so you only have to pay for range hire. Opportunity to participate in Association forums.	Prior to competing.	Recommendation – No sanction for non-completion.

			Representation by your National Governing Body on all shooting matters e.g. legislative threats to our sport. Entry to exclusive competitions. Promote your club and competitions on our website. Quarterly copy of On Target magazine – featuring news and features from the NSRA.		
Rifle (Short/Long Range Championships)	National Small-bore Rifle Association (NSRA) Individual Membership	Login - JustGo	Unrivalled Insurance from NSRA partner MarshSport. Access to all NSRA competitions. Access to NSRA Bisley (Lord Roberts Centre) so you only have to pay for range hire. Expert help and advice from the NSRA (your National Governing Body). Representation on all shooting matters e.g. legislative threats to our sport. NSRA Rewards Scheme to receive exclusive	Prior to competing.	Recommendation – No sanction for non-completion.

			offers and discounts from high street shops and online retailers. Opportunity to train and obtain NSRA Coaching Qualifications (dependant on age). Quarterly copy of On Target magazine – featuring news and features from the NSRA.		
Rowing (Head and Regatta)	British Rowing membership is not a requirement to compete. However, BUCS Rowing Head and Regatta are eligible for British Rowing ranking points. These will be attributed to competitors who have British Rowing membership, or a visitor number.	British Rowing website	A summary of the benefits of British Rowing membership can be found here .	Prior to competing.	Recommendation – No sanction for non-completion.
Rowing (Beach Sprint Championships)	British Rowing Race Membership is required.	British Rowing Website	A summary of the benefits of British Rowing membership can be found here .	Prior to entering	Yes – Individuals without a membership will not be permitted to compete.
Sailing	British Universities Sailing Association Club Membership All institutions/Playing Entities must have a valid British Universities Sailing Association (BUSA) membership.	BUSA Membership	Member benefits include affiliation to the RYA and support and development for university sailing clubs.	Prior to competing.	Yes – Clubs without a valid BUSA membership will not be permitted to compete.

	More information relating to this can be found on the BUSA website .				
Surfing	NGB Club Affiliation Mandatory club affiliation to Surfing England for English institutions/Playing Entities Recommended club affiliation to their Home Nation's National Governing Body for Northern Irish, Scottish and Welsh institutions/Playing Entities.	Irish Surfing Scottish Surfing Surfing England Welsh Surfing Federation	For a summary of the member benefits please refer to each Home Nation's specific website.	Prior to competing	Yes – Clubs in England with no valid Surfing England membership will not be permitted to compete. Recommendation – Clubs in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales – no sanction for non-completion.
Swimming	Being registered with a governing body is not a requirement to compete in the BUCS Swimming Championships. However, registered swimmers of Swim England, Scottish Swimming or Swim Wales who wish for their times to be submitted for ranking purposes must ensure that they provide their governing body number when registering on BUCS Play, as well as	Scottish Swimming membership website Swim England membership website Swim Wales membership website	A membership will allow times recorded in individual events to be submitted to rankings after the event has taken place.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Recommendation – No sanction for non-completion.

	checking that the name and date of birth matches that on their governing body registration. For para-swimmers to be eligible for para-swimming points and awards they must be nationally/internationally classified and have a current governing body registration to validate their entry. Governing body numbers must be provided at the point of entry.				
Taekwondo	Individuals will require the relevant membership depending upon the style they will be competing in. If competing in WT Style events they will require a British Taekwondo membership. If competing in ITF Style events they will require a British Taekwondo Council membership.	British Taekwondo - WT Style British Taekwondo Council - ITF Style	Both memberships give you access to the BUCS event, as well as other national competitions. British Taekwondo benefits can be found here.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes – Individuals without a valid British Taekwondo or British Taekwondo Council Membership will not be allowed to compete.
Touch	Club Affiliation and Membership All institutions/Playing Entities must be a member of the England	Membership information can be found here. ‘University’ membership can be purchased through	A summary of benefits can be found here.	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes - If a club is found to not have a valid ETA membership whilst competing at a BUCS Touch Championships event, they and all teams

	Touch Association, regardless of which country within the UK that said institution resides in.	the ETA membership portal here .			entered from said club will be disqualified from the event.
Touch	Player Membership All players must be a member of the England Touch Association.	Membership information can be found here . Membership can be purchased through the ETA membership portal here .	A summary of benefits can be found here .	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play.	Yes - If a player is found to not have a valid ETA membership whilst competing at a BUCS Touch Championships event, the team they have represented will be disqualified from the event.
Triathlon	British Triathlon Membership Being registered with a governing body is not a requirement to compete in the BUCS Triathlon Championships. However, if you do not hold a membership, you will be required to sign up for a race pass to compete at each event.	Membership – British Triathlon	Benefits can be found here .	Before entries are submitted on BUCS Play Or Before the day of competition for race passes.	No – but a £2 race pass is required per race to compete if you do not have membership.
Ultimate (Indoor)	UK Ultimate (UKU) Membership All players competing in the Indoor Championships Regional Rounds require Basic Membership. All players competing at the Indoor National	Information on UKU Membership can be found here and memberships can be purchased here . Please Note: UKU Club Affiliation is not mandatory to compete in the BUCS Ultimate programme. However, to facilitate the individual membership process, an	Basic Membership: Access to some member events for Free, such as Coaches Forums. Full Membership: Eligibility to compete in any UK Ultimate event. Free access to rewards scheme.	Prior to competing.	Yes – £25 fine per player without UKU Individual Membership once the Championships have commenced.

	Finals events require Full Membership.	institution/Playing Entity's club must be registered with the UKU.	Free access to online Coach Education materials. Access to member events for free, such as Coaches Forums.		
Windsurfing	Recommended affiliation to The Student Windsurfing Association.	SWA website		Prior to competing.	Recommendation – No sanction for non-completion.